

**STATE OF GEORGIA  
REVISED TMDL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR  
SPRING CREEK  
FLINT RIVER BASIN**

**LEAD**

**Prepared by  
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Environmental Protection Division  
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TMDL Implementation Plans are platforms for establishing a course of actions to restore the quality of impaired water bodies in a watershed. They are intended as a continuing process that may be revised as new conditions and information warrant. Procedures will be developed to track and evaluate the implementation of the management practices and activities identified in the plans. Once restored, appropriate management practices and activities will be continued to maintain the water bodies.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD) has identified two miles of Springs Creek, from a swampy point two miles upstream to its confluence with Lake Blackshear in Sumter County, as partially supporting its designated use due to the parameter Lead. The water use classification for Spring Creek is fishing. The fishing classification, as stated in Georgia's Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control Chapter 391-3-3-.(6)(c), is established to protect the "propagation of Fish, Shellfish, Game and Other Aquatic Life; secondary contact recreation in and on the water; or for any other use requiring water of a lower quality."

The Spring Creek listing for lead resulted from water quality assessment data collected in 1992 and 1993. The Lake Blackshear Clean Lakes Report did not provide a specific value for the lead concentration detected. The report just indicated that one Spring Creek sample had an elevated lead value. This segment of Spring Creek was first listed in the Georgia 1994 303(d) list. The validity of this historical data is suspect due to the potential for contamination during sampling. In November 2000 and June 2001, water quality data was collected in Lake Blackshear at Midlake and the Dam Forebay using clean sampling techniques. The sample results showed no violation of the lead standards and resulted in the delisting of the Lake Blackshear listed segment. Spring Creek, an embayment to Lake Blackshear, was not sampled and therefore was not reassessed.

## **DISCUSSION OF POLLUTANT**

Lead is a naturally occurring metal found throughout the environment. Lead and/or lead compounds containing lead have been used in paint, as an anti-knock additive in gasoline, in batteries, solder and other metal products. Lead can affect almost every organ in the body. The nervous system is particularly sensitive to excessive amounts. Lead may be ingested or inhaled.

## **PLAN FOR TMDL IMPLEMENTATION**

There are currently no NPDES permitted discharges to Spring Creek. If a permit were to be issued in the future, EPD will use its EPA-approved 2001 NPDES Reasonable Potential Procedures to determine whether monitoring requirements or effluent limitations are necessary. If effluent limitations or monitoring requirements are determined through a reasonable potential analysis to be necessary for any future facilities, it is recommended that concentrations limits or concentration monitoring requirements be imposed in addition to any loading limits or monitoring requirements.

## **MONITORING PLAN**

The GAEPD has adopted a basin approach to water quality management that divides Georgia's fourteen major river basins into five groups. This approach provides for additional sampling work to be focused on one of the five basin groups each year and offers a five year planning and assessment cycle. The Chattahoochee and Flint River Basins were the subjects of focused monitoring in 2000 and will again receive focused monitoring in 2005.

## **EDUCATION/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

The Environmental Protection Division will continue to provide guidance and education to the public on all water quality issues through outreach by the Water Protection Branch. Permitted discharges will be regulated through the NPDES permitting process. EPD is working with local governments, agricultural, and forestry agencies such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Regional Development Centers, the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission, and the Georgia Forestry Commission to foster the implementation of best management practices to address nonpoint sources. Public education efforts will be targeted to stakeholders to provide information regarding the use of best management practices to protect water quality.

## **REFERENCE**

Georgia Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6-.03,  
Water Use Classifications and Water Quality Standards,  
Revised February 2004.

USEPA, 2003. Flint River Basin TMDL for Lead in Springs Creek, Sumter  
County, February 2003.